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# ***Daily Report***

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## **Sub-Saharan Africa**

FBIS-AFR-90-039  
Tuesday  
27 February 1990

# Daily Report

## Sub-Saharan Africa

FBIS-AFR-90-039

### CONTENTS

27 February 1990

#### CENTRAL AFRICA

##### Gabon

Tension Reportedly Rising in Libreville [AFP] .....	1
Telephone, Air Links Disrupted [Libreville Africa No 1] .....	1
Demonstrations, Strikes Noted [AFP] .....	1
Cabinet Reshuffle Announced [Libreville Africa No 1] .....	2

#### EAST AFRICA

##### Ethiopia

Mengistu Names New 1st Army Chief, Others [Addis Ababa Radio] .....	3
Rebels Report Cluster Bombs Dropped on Mitsiwa [Voice of Eritrean Broad Masses] .....	3

##### Somalia

Ministers of State, Deputy Ministers Named [Mogadishu Radio] .....	3
--	---

#### REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

Nelson Mandela Departs for Lusaka 27 Feb [SAPA] .....	4
Pik Botha Welcomes Mandela 25 Feb Remarks [Johannesburg Radio] .....	4
Mandela Interviewed on Armed Struggle, Violence [NEW NATION 23 Feb-1 Mar] .....	4
'Sources' Deny Plans To Remove Magnus Malan [THE CITIZEN 26 Feb] .....	5
Mandela Urges Dismissal [THE CITIZEN 26 Feb] .....	5
UDF, Inkatha Fighting in Durban Squatter Camp [SAPA] .....	5
Robben Island Prisoners Begin Hunger Strike 26 Feb [Umtata Radio] .....	6
Police Arrest 20 Near Parliament [SAPA] .....	6
Hunger Strike Termed 'Critical' [SAPA] .....	6
UN Representative Views Future Full Membership [SUNDAY STAR 25 Feb] .....	7

#### SOUTHERN AFRICA

##### Angola

ANGOP: Cuban Troop Withdrawal Resumes 25 Feb .....	8
UNITA Report Denies Air Raid on Jamba [Voice of the Black Cockerel] .....	8
Dos Santos Appoints Secretary, Deputy Ministers [Luanda Radio] .....	8

##### Lesotho

Justice Swears in Two Ministers, Deputies [Maseru Radio] .....	8
--	---

##### Namibia

Nujoma Plans for Mar Independence Celebrations .....	9
Invites 'Old Friend' 'Arafat [THE NAMIBIAN 21 Feb] .....	9
Libya's Al-Qadhdhafi To Attend [THE NAMIBIAN 19 Feb] .....	9
Cabinet Drops Health, Finance Deputy Posts [Windhoek Radio] .....	9
Pienaar Declares 21, 22 Mar Public Holidays [Windhoek Radio] .....	9

**Swaziland**

Prime Minister Sends 'Special Message' to Mandela	[THE SWAZI OBSERVER 27 Feb]	9
---	-----------------------------	---

**Zambia**

Kaunda Receives UK Antiapartheid Movement Official	[Lusaka Radio]	9
--	----------------	---

**WEST AFRICA**

**Ivory Coast**

Students Defy Government; Protests Continue 26 Feb	[BBC]	11
Demonstrations, Demands Viewed	[PANA]	11
Student Group Issues Statement	[FRATERNITE MATIN 26 Feb]	12
Opposition FPI Head Says 'Ready To Govern'	[BBC]	13
Houphouet-Boigny Meets Employers, Union Officials	[Abidjan Radio]	14
Austerity Program Decision Postponed	[AFP]	14

## Gabon

### Tension Reportedly Rising in Libreville

AB2602130090 Paris AFP in French 1215 GMT  
26 Feb 90

[Text] Libreville, 26 Feb (AFP)—Tension has sharply risen here since this morning, with groups of youths demonstrating in many districts of the Gabonese capital observers noted. Meanwhile, it was also observed that members of the law-enforcement agencies were totally absent. Wielding sticks and pieces of broken bottles, groups of demonstrating youths went to the various schools that normally opened for classes and compelled them to close.

In another development, it was learned that all telephone exchange centers have been damaged and the city deprived of telephone and telex services. Furthermore, the personnel of the Agency for Air Navigation and Safety in Africa and Madagascar went on strike this morning, and as a result, international and domestic flights might be interrupted.

Since fuel was not normally supplied, most filling stations have remained closed and long queues can be seen in front of the rare stations that are still open. The crisis management unit of the security agencies held a meeting this morning at the Presidential Palace to examine modalities for their intervention to maintain law and order, a reliable source disclosed.

### Telephone, Air Links Disrupted

AB2602140090 Libreville Africa No 1 in French  
1230 GMT 26 Feb 90

[Text] Fresh strikes began in Libreville, the Gabonese capital this morning. Many sectors of socioeconomic activity have been affected by strikes. These include telecommunications, air transport, primary and high schools. Here is Jean-Claude Franck Medome with more details:

[Medome] Decidedly, tension persists in Gabonese society although the Gabonese Trade Union Federation had asked workers to resume work as of today after the consultations held recently between workers' delegates and the prime minister a few days ago. Despite this call, Postal and Telecommunications Office staff went on strike today. As a result telephones services are down. A victim of this situation is the Gabonese air transport company, Air Gabon, which cannot operate its flights today. No planes can take off or land at Libreville.

In a related development, high school teachers did not resume work today. They were due to meet the minister of national education this morning. Their grievances generally include demands for pay increases. In this connection, President Bongo clearly stated that the demands made by workers were far beyond the country's financial resources. Mr. Bongo did not rule out the

possibility of asking law-enforcement agencies, soon, to maintain law and order with more vigor although he deplores the use of force.

It should be noted that these strikes are taking place on the eve of the meeting tomorrow of the Gabonese Democratic Party's Central Committee and the members of Parliament to discuss constitutional amendments.

### Demonstrations, Strikes Noted

AB2602194090 Paris AFP in French 1647 GMT  
26 Feb 90

[By AFP correspondent Patrick Van Roekeghem]

[Text] Libreville, 26 Feb (AFP)—The Gabonese capital has since this morning been experiencing a sudden renewal of tension, after a kind of truce observed during the weekend. Several demonstrations have taken place around the capital's secondary schools, while the strikes increased, it was noted on the spot. [passage omitted]

While some power cuts were being experienced in various wards of the city, it was learned that the staff of the Agency for Air Navigation Safety in Africa and Madagascar (ASECNA) had stopped work, thus paralyzing domestic and international flights and grounding several aircraft, some of which belong to foreign airlines. [passage omitted]

For the time being, security forces are few, if not totally absent, except a few tanks in some areas of the town where riots traditionally break out, such as the truck park, one of the AFP correspondents noted.

Early in the afternoon, barricades were noticed on the Voie Triomphale which runs from the 12 March City housing the Palace of Congresses. These barricades were made up of taxi cabs which the demonstrators had positioned to block the highway.

Also, soldiers had taken up positions at the 12 March City roundabout at the center of which is built the statue of President Bongo.

It was learned from reliable sources that President Bongo this morning held a meeting with the members of the crisis unit set up a few days ago following the social tension. The meeting was expected to examine the situation and to find ways to maintain order in the country.

Finally, the national radio, in its afternoon newscast, only mentioned that the paralyzing of flights risked disrupting the holding of a meeting of the Central Committee of the Gabonese Democratic Party (PDG) and the National Assembly—a meeting scheduled for tomorrow and charged with making the first amendments to the Constitution—as delegates from the interior cannot travel to the capital.

**Cabinet Reshuffle Announced**

AB2702090590 Libreville Africa No 1 in French  
0730 GMT 27 Feb 90

[Text] A minor cabinet reshuffle marked by the removal of deputy prime minister portfolios has taken place in Gabon. The incumbent deputy prime ministers will now become ministers of state without portfolios. They will, however, be charged with coordinating the four government working groups. Let us listen to Leon Mebiamé, prime minister and head of government.

[Begin Mebiamé recording] In agreement with the head of state, His Excellency El Hadj Omar Bongo, and in view of the prevailing situation in our country, I have decided to reshuffle the government. Later, measures concerning civil servants will be announced. I am asking all those affected—I will not say hit—by those measures to consider that the measures are the outcome of collective reflection. We will pursue our 15-day-long dialogue in a constructive atmosphere. What I expect of each and everyone is to ensure that trust prevails. [end recording]

That was the prime minister explaining the rationale behind the cabinet reshuffle. Other changes are expected today. In the meantime, what is your assessment of the reshuffle, Jean-Claude Franck Medome?

[Medome] As you said earlier, Louis Mba-Ondo, we note that the portfolios of first, second, third, and fourth deputy prime ministers have been dropped. The holders

of these portfolios, Georges Rawiri, Etienne Guy Mouvagha-Tchioba, Emile Kassa-Mapsi, and Essimengane, remain in the government as ministers of state. The second observation is that several ministries have been merged, maybe for economy sake. In this vein, the prime minister and head of government will now be minister of finance, budget and participation, and planning, development, and economy. Similarly, Michel Anchouey will not only head the department of higher education and scientific and technological research, but also the department of national education.

There are many incoming and outgoing figures. The ministers leaving the government are the following: Rene Radembino-Coniquet, Francois Oyono Nguema, Herve Moutsinga, Jean-Pierre Lemboumba-Lepandou, Guy Nzouba-Ndama, Louis Gaston Mayila, Jean-Pierre Okias, and Divungi di Ndingue. The new figures include Jean Ping, the former director of the president's civil affairs office; Marcel Doupamby Matoka; Adrien Mounguengui Pambo; Martin Fidele Magnaga; Thierry Mousavou; Paul Toungui; Alexandre Chambrier; and Marcel Kiki.

Last observation: The size of this government is quite similar to the previous one. It is comprised of 41 members as against 42. Many questions remain unanswered: What have the high commissioners become? What about the special advisers? After the announcement today of further changes, there is no doubt these questions will be answered.

## Ethiopia

### Mengistu Names New 1st Army Chief, Others

EA260220090 Addis Ababa Domestic Service  
in Amharic 1700 GMT 26 Feb 90

[Text] Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam, secretary general of the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee, People's Democratic Republic of Ethiopia president and commander in chief of the Armed Forces, today made the following appointments:

Comrade Feleke Gedle Giorgis, WPE Central Committee member—ambassador;

Comrade Tadese Gebre Kidan, WPE Central Committee member—ambassador;

Comrade Getachew Habte Selassie—minister of foreign trade;

Comrade Argaw Tiruneh—national water resources commissioner;

Comrade Fiseha Yimer—assistant minister of foreign affairs;

Comrade Berhanu Ejigu—assistant minister of industry;

Comrade Israel Kidane Mariam, deputy head in the National Committee for External Economic Relations Secretariat, with the rank of assistant minister;

Comrade Neguse Abera, deputy commissioner of defense industry;

Comrade Brigadier Gugsu Beyene—deputy commissioner of defense industry;

Comrade Major-General Getachew Gedamu, commander of the 1st Revolutionary Army;

Comrade Asefa Welde—ambassador;

Comrade Tefera Shawul—ambassador;

Comrade Konjit Sine Giorgis—ambassador.

### Rebels Report Cluster Bombs Dropped on Mitsiwa

EA2602171290 (Clandestine) Voice of the Broad  
Masses of Eritrea in Amharic 0630 GMT 26 Feb 90

[Text] Dergue warplanes repeatedly carried out heavy bombings against innocent people and property in Mitsiwa the day before yesterday [24 February]. They carried out their savage bombings, dropping internationally-prohibited cluster bombs, at a time when (?innocent) people had gathered in the town to conduct their usual business for their normal lives. [passage indistinct]

## Somalia

### Ministers of State, Deputy Ministers Named

EA2602215890 Mogadishu Domestic Service  
in Somali 1700 GMT 26 Feb 90

[Text] A report released last night by the office of Comrade Mohamed Siad Barre, the Somali Democratic Republic [SDR] president, announced that Comrade Mohamed Ali Samantar, the SDR prime minister, has forwarded to the SDR president a list of names of ministers of state and deputy ministers, and that the president has accepted them. The report adds that after considering the need for the appointment of ministers of state and deputy ministers the following have been named:

Comrade Mohamed Ali Hamud, minister of state for foreign affairs;

Comrade Hared Farah Nur, deputy minister of interior;

Comrade Hussein Mohamed Siad Aato, deputy minister of finance and treasury;

Comrade Mohamoud Abdi Nur, deputy minister of agriculture;

Comrade (Mohamed Nur Hirshil), deputy minister of livestock, forestry and ranges;

Comrade Mohamed Noor Aliyow, deputy minister of commerce and industry;

Comrade [name indistinct] Hasan Barre, deputy minister of planning and Juba Valley development;

Comrade Mahad Dirir Guled, deputy minister of fisheries, marine transport, and ports;

Comrade Abdullahi Mahmeud Mireh, deputy minister of education and higher [word indistinct];

Comrade Abdullahi Mohamed Siad, deputy minister of health;

Comrade (Hussein Abdirahman Miyow), deputy minister of labor, sports, and social affairs;

Comrade Abdi Khalif Ilmi, deputy minister of information, national guidance, and tourism;

Comrade Ahmed Idris Karsheh, deputy minister of public works and housing;

Comrade Du'aleh Mohamed Hirsi, deputy minister of air and land transport;

Comrade Daud Sheikh Abdiqadir, deputy minister of minerals and water resources;

Comrade Said Ahmed Sheikh Dahir, deputy minister of justice and religious affairs;

Comrade Ahmed Mohamed Egaag, deputy minister of posts and telecommunications.



**Nelson Mandela Departs for Lusaka 27 Feb***MB2702092590 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
0917 GMT 27 Feb 90*

[By Joan Fubbs]

[Text] Johannesburg Feb 27 SAPA—ANC [African National Congress] leader Mr. Nelson Mandela and other democratic leaders left Johannesburg for Lusaka about 10.45am on Tuesday [27 February] to the sound of a toyi-toying [protest-dancing] crowd of well-wishers.

"I am looking forward to conferring with the Lusaka ANC leadership and also with our international supporters without whom the struggle would not have advanced as far as it has," Mr. Mandela told SAPA as he adged his way through a crowd of photographers and journalists towards a special entrance opened so he could pass through emigration unimpeded.

Several leaders from various democratic organisations accompanied Mr. Mandela on the first leg of his trip to Africa and overseas.

Among them were: Mr. Walter Sisulu, one of the internal leaders of the ANC; Mr. Cyril Ramaphosa, general secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers; Mr. Jay Naidoo, general secretary of COSATU [Congress of South African Trade Unions]; Mr. Mohammed Valli Moosa, UDF [United Democratic Front] executive member; three former Rivonia trialists and long term ANC prisoners, Mr. Andrew Mlangeni, Mr. Ahmed Kathrada, and Mr. Elias Motsoaledi.

Dressed in a stunning ensemble with a French picture hat setting of her profile, a smiling Winnie Mandela walked confidently besides her husband as the entourage left the VIP departure lounge for their special Zambian flight to Lusaka.

A close aide of Mr. Mandela said the ANC leaders' visit to Lusaka, Harare and other countries was primarily aimed at Mr. Mandela acquainting himself with the ANC leadership which had headed the international campaign in the liberation struggle.

As comrades of the democratic movement waved Mr. Mandela through emigration he turned back, waved to them and said they should keep up the struggle.

**Pik Botha Welcomes Mandela 25 Feb Remarks***MB2602101490 Johannesburg Domestic Service  
in English 0900 GMT 26 Feb 90*

[Text] The minister of foreign affairs, Mr. Pik Botha, has welcomed the call by the ANC [African National Congress] leader, Mr. Nelson Mandela, for an end to violence in South Africa.

Speaking at a rally in Durban yesterday, Mr. Mandela called on people to throw their weapons into the sea.

Mr. Botha welcomed the heads of South Africa's diplomatic missions abroad to their annual conference in Cape Town this morning and said Mr. Mandela's appeal should be broadened.

Mr. Botha said the resentment and distrust of the past should be thrown into the sea as well because they were also weapons that prevented people who belonged together from reaching out to each other.

The conference will last until Friday [2 March] and will be addressed by the state president, Mr. F.W. de Klerk, tomorrow.

**Mandela Interviewed on Armed Struggle, Violence***MB2402145490 Johannesburg NEW NATION in English  
23 Feb-1 Mar 90 p 4*

[Interview with ANC leader Nelson Mandela by unidentified correspondent; date and place not given]

[Text] NEW NATION [NN]: If you were to sum up the NEC's [National Executive Committee] response to De Klerk, what would you say was the crux of the response? NELSON MANDELA [NM]: That was a very good response. It now shifts the whole responsibility for the next move to Mr de Klerk—because we have originally stated that we will not be able to sit down to negotiate until the government met all our pre-conditions.

We must also point out, that statements that have been made, both by the government and by the press have been unfair on the ANC [African National Congress]—that we have delayed our response.

But in actual fact, they forget that the government has had months and months to discuss this speech, planning and consulting their constituency.

They confront us with the speech and although they had indicated to me the day before what the speech was going to be—and they did this very fully and accurately—but the point is that I don't decide, I don't take decisions.

It is the National Executive Committee of the ANC which takes decisions.

And we are not even given the opportunity to consult our constituency to get a mandate. We have nevertheless responded to him. So people must understand that.

NN: There have been calls from various quarters internationally, calling on the ANC to abandon the armed struggle, among them Zambian president, Kenneth Kaunda. He has also called on De Klerk to lift the state of emergency in all areas, except Natal?

Can you respond first to the call relating to the armed struggle and secondly, can the state of emergency be part of the solution in the conflict in Natal?

NM: The call by Kaunda must be examined in the context of the whole outlook of Kaunda. He is a non-violent man in the proper sense of the word. And once he

sees an opportunity for a political solution, it is only sensible for him to call for the relaxation of the armed struggle.

But our own approach is slightly different. Because we say that until the organisation is placed in a position whereby it can have options other than violence to prosecute the struggle effectively, we will stick to the armed struggle because the problems which compelled us to resort to armed struggle in the first place are still there.

On basic issues, the position is precisely the same because we have not vote, we have no land, we have no wealth—we do not share in the wealth of the country. Those conditions are still there. And armed struggle therefore is still a struggle which is valid in terms of the political conditions.

On the Natal question: We insist that the State of Emergency [SOE] should be lifted in its totality. We don't agree that it should remain even for the purpose of the Natal violence. The SOE has been there all along and the Natal violence has worsened. That alone shows that the SOE has been totally ineffective in suppressing violence. Violence begets violence. It is the violence of apartheid which is compelling people to kill one another.

NN: What is the rationale behind the argument for the nationalisation of some sectors of the economy—which sectors will be nationalised?

NM: Well, we have set our policy very clearly. We have declared ourselves in favour of nationalisation of mines, monopoly industry and financial institutions.

The mines are clear and the financial institutions are clear. On monopoly industries, we would decide at the time when change occurs which particular industries should be nationalised.

It is difficult to lay down exact guidelines at this stage.

NN: [Homeland leaders] Mangope and Sebe this week rejected re-incorporation into SA [South Africa]. How do you see the future of these bantustans—especially in the short term when one talks of negotiations. On which side of the table do you envisage they will sit?

NM: I do not think that approach is one that I could support. Certain people cannot, by virtue of the fact that they have been handpicked by the government, now be invited to be seated at the negotiating table.

It seems that the proper approach should be a democratic one....the people who are seated at the negotiating table must have a proper mandate from their constituency.

And the only democratic way of getting that mandate is through democratic non-racial elections, held throughout the country and for all population groups.

NN: SA continues to sponsor the destabilisation of Mozambique. How will this affect progress towards negotiations?

NM: SA must stop destabilising Frontline States because that is going to affect the progress towards negotiations inside the country—because those are our brothers.

### **'Sources' Deny Plans To Remove Magnus Malan**

MB2602210690 Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English  
26 Feb 90 p 1

[By Brian Stuart]

[Excerpt] Cape Town—Government sources yesterday denied a newspaper claim that the State President, Mr F.W. de Klerk, is looking for a reason to get rid of the Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan.

"It would be invidious for the State President to sack a Minister purely on the basis of untested media reports," THE CITIZEN was told. [passage omitted]

### **Mandela Urges Dismissal**

MB2602205690 Johannesburg THE CITIZEN in English  
26 Feb 90 p 1

[By Poen de Villiers]

[Excerpt] The Minister of Defence, General Magnus Malan, must be dismissed from the Cabinet and the Minister of Law and Order, Mr Adriaan Vlok, suspended, African National Congress [ANC] leader, Mr Nelson Mandela, said in Bloemfontein yesterday.

He told an ANC rally in the [Orange] Free State Stadium: "We view with horror the moral decay within certain sections of the security establishment.

"The collapse of good conscience and the absence of accountability and public scrutiny have led to crimes against humanity and violations of the international law,

"We call on Mr F.W. de Klerk to show good faith in this matter by suspending Mr Vlok and dismissing Gen Malan."

Mr Mandela said the ANC was totally committed to the rule of law, and he accused the government of systematically undermining this "time-honoured juridical principle of all civilised societies." [passage omitted]

### **UDF, Inkatha Fighting in Durban Squatter Camp**

MB2702102590 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1014 GMT 27 Feb 90

[Text] Durban Feb 27 SAPA—Fierce fighting was continuing on Tuesday [27 February] in the squatter settlement of Malagazi, near Isipingo, Durban, as more shacks were set on fire in a violent clash between supporters of the United Democratic Front [UDF] and Inkatha.

The fighting started only hours after the call on Sunday from African National Congress leader Mr. Nelson Mandela for warring factions in Natal to bury the hatchet.



So far more than 200 people have been left homeless and the figure is expected to rise rapidly.

At least 42 shacks have been razed to the ground by rampaging mobs who have been terrorising residents since Sunday night. On Monday night at the height of the thunderstorm 30 shacks were gutted, following the burning of about 12 others on Sunday night. Police said the situation was very tense at the squatter settlement on Tuesday and there was a strong police presence in the area.

According to the SAP's [South African Police] latest unrest report a man was shot dead when his house was attacked by a group of men on Monday in the squatter settlement.

Early Tuesday members of the police riot unit had to be called out because a group of about 1,000 schoolchildren were marching, toyi-toying and singing. Their destination was unknown.

On Monday night firemen from the Amanzimtoti Fire Department had to be escorted into the area by police and members of the South African Defence Force to fight the fires and stop the blaze from spreading to other shacks.

Lt. Bala Naidoo, police public relations officer for Port Natal said fighting started on Sunday night when a mob set fire to about 12 shacks.

On Monday night the fighting resumed and 30 more shacks were gutted. About 200 people are homeless.

Residents claimed the fighting started after groups of UDF supporters returned from the Mandela rally at Kings Park on Sunday. It is alleged that Inkatha supporters began to taunt the UDF members from U Section, Umlazi, who then attacked the squatter settlement.

At Sunday's rally Mr. Mandela made a plea to end the fighting in Natal in which more than 2,000 have lost their lives in unrest incidents.

He appealed for those responsible to throw their guns, knives and pangas [machetes] into the sea.

—Meanwhile, a taxi driver was shot dead at Inanda on Monday and several passengers injured when an unknown gunman opened fire.

In another incident in the area, a man was arrested after he fired shots at a South African Defence Force patrol. Police have taken possession of a home-made gun.

#### **Robben Island Prisoners Begin Hunger Strike 26 Feb**

*MB2602112490 Umtata Capital Radio in English  
1000 GMT 26 Feb 90*

[Text] There is a hunger strike by prisoners at Robben Island. As Rex Murrayfield reports, the strike by some 300 prisoners is part of a nationwide campaign:

[Murrayfield] The hunger strike was announced at a (?placard) demonstration outside Parliament where 30 protesters were arrested. According to MDM [Mass Democratic Movement] representatives, the protest signals the start of a countrywide campaign for the unconditional release of all political prisoners.

They also announced that 340 political prisoners on Robben Island began a hunger strike today in response to the state president's announcement that 77 prisoners convicted of nonviolent political crimes would be released.

The hunger strike is expected to continue until all political prisoners regardless of crime are released.

#### **Police Arrest 20 Near Parliament**

*MB2602142490 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1355 GMT 26 Feb 90*

[Excerpt] Cape Town Feb 26 SAPA—Police arrested about 20 people holding a peaceful protest near Parliament in Cape Town on Monday.

A SA [South African] Police spokesman later confirmed the people would be charged under the Gatherings and Demonstrations Act.

The protest was staged in support of some 350 political prisoners in Robben Island who started a hunger strike on Monday, according to a spokesman of the Mass Democratic Movement.

The strike would mark the beginning of a renewed campaign for the release of all political prisoners, irrespective of whether they have committed acts of violence or not, the spokesman said. [passage omitted]

#### **Hunger Strike Termed 'Critical'**

*MB2702105890 Johannesburg SAPA in English  
1022 GMT 27 Feb 90*

[Text] Cape Town Feb 27 SAPA—The hunger strike situation on Robben Island is critical, and tensions have increased since the strike began on Monday [26 February]. Mr. Dullah Omar of the defiance campaign's Hunger Strike Committee said at a press conference in Cape Town on Tuesday.

He said the committee rejected President F.W. de Klerk's definition of political prisoners and that there were some 3,000 political prisoners throughout South Africa according to the committee's definition, 300 of which were on Robben Island.

The main demand of the striking prisoners was that they should be released immediately and unconditionally, and since Mr. de Klerk's speech on February 2, there had been no indication he would release the prisoners, Mr. Omar said.

UDF [United Democratic Front] media and information representative Willie Hofmeyr, who visited the island on

Monday, said they had "gone on a hunger strike from breakfast, except those who are medically unfit and those who are doing manual labor in the kitchen".

These latter were "on a slow strike", he said.

He added the prisoners had set up a joint committee and had demanded access to legal representation and to the heads of their respective organisations (PAC [Pan-Africanist Congress], ANC [African National Congress], Black Consciousness Movement), but there had been no response as yet to these requests.

He also said that although the Prison's Department had released a statement on Monday saying prisoners had access to food, those prisoners "in higher categories who can get food, have locked all foodstuffs in a cell, so there is no access to it by the prisoners".

The prisoners were strong and determined to carry on with the strike, he added.

The committee intends posting pickets around Parliament every lunchtime until the strike is over, has organised a solidarity meeting, and will march in Cape Town on Friday from St. George's Cathedral to Stalplein in protest against the continued detentions.

Mothers of prisoners in detention on Robben Island were also present at the conference, and called on Mr. de Klerk to release all political prisoners.

In a statement, the committee demanded the unconditional release of all political detainees, the immediate termination of all political trials, the immediate lifting of the state of emergency, and the withdrawal of all "soldiers of the South African Defence Force, kitskonstabels [special constables], racist police and other agents of the apartheid regime".

The chairperson of the UDF, Mr. Bulelani Ngcuka, led the meeting.

#### UN Representative Views Future Full Membership

MB2502113690 Johannesburg SUNDAY STAR in English  
25 Feb 90 p 9

[By Mike Littlejohn]

[Text] New York—South Africa's return to full participation in the work of the United Nations must be a step-by-step process that will require concessions on both sides, but it could still go very quickly, believes Jeremy Shearer, South Africa's [SA] chief representative at the UN.

In an interview shortly before his return to South Africa for next week's conference in Cape Town to which all mission heads serving abroad have been summoned, he added the caveat that as long as there were even a few hardliners opposed to South Africa's return to the General Assembly earlier hostility might prove difficult to overcome.

Mr Shearer, who has been at the UN for 18 months, having previously served at the UN's Geneva office, said he was surprised at the number of people "who expect us to come back". South Africa's delegation was ejected from the General Assembly in 1974 by a controversial decision by the president at that time, Abdelaziz Bouteflika [name as published], Algeria's Foreign Minister.

Mr Shearer said there were "considerable reasons" why he might have sought to resume the seats that have remained unoccupied in the interim, behind the South African nameplate, at the special session on apartheid held last December.

But private soundings determined that there would have been an immediate negative reaction, although the Assembly president, Major-General Joseph Garba, of Nigeria, had spoken of extending Pretoria a hand of friendship. "You can't do that through a closed door," Mr Shearer observed. General Garba is soon to fly to Lusaka to attend meetings planned by the ANC [African National Congress] at which Nelson Mandela is to be present.

"I see my role here as looking in the direction of reclaiming our seat," Mr Shearer said. Talks have already been held with senior UN Officials about the payment of South Africa's accumulated debt of \$50 million (about R128 million [rand]).

Mr Shearer said that ever since 1974, the SA mission had continued to have full access to all UN documents and to the Secretariat.

But South Africa could not be expected to contribute to those segments of the UN budget that covered activities specifically directed against it. He would prefer a compromise payment of a percentage of the debt, which is second only to that of the United States, rather than have to go painstakingly into all the details of what were and were not reasonable assessments.

Mr Shearer said the United Nations was important for "middle powers" like South Africa that should be able to use the organisation to their own and everyone else's advantage.

Events had tempered South Africa for what should be a "much more healthy relationship" with the UN and other members in the years ahead, he added.

**Angola****ANGOP: Cuban Troop Withdrawal Resumes 25 Feb**

*MB2602201890 Luanda ANGOP in French 2001 GMT 26 Feb 90*

[Text] Luanda, 26 Feb (ANGOP)—More than 100 Cuban soldiers left Luanda for Havana 25 February, thus resuming the Cuban troop withdrawal from Angola.

It should be recalled that the Cuban and Angolan Governments temporarily suspended in January the Cuban troop withdrawal from Angola after a UNITA [National Union for the Total Independence of Angola] attack on a Cuban unit north of the 13th parallel, in coastal Benguela Province.

The sovereign Angolan and Cuban Governments decided to resume the Cuban withdrawal after a joint meeting in the Angolan capital on 19 February.

**UNITA Report Denies Air Raid on Jamba**

*MB2702060990 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Southern and Central Africa 0510 GMT 27 Feb 90*

["Political and Military Situation Report" for 1100 GMT on 26 February—read by announcer]

[Text] 1. The MPLA-PT [Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola-Labor Party] continues to rely on lies as its principal weapon. Up to this period, there is no Mavinga under FAPLA [People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola] control. Nor is it true that Jamba has been bombed by any air force.

2. To force its advance and dislodge our troops, the enemy air force has intensified bombings using chemical weapons against our forces' defensive lines because the so-called tactical groups have been unable to break through our barriers.

3. On 25 February 1990 and during the first hours of 26 February, taking advantage of air force's fire and coverage, the first enemy group tried to advance with a dozen tanks and other equipment. Our forces retaliated immediately destroying two T-54 tanks, four BMP-1's, five vehicles loaded with war materiel, one BM-21, and two B-30 cannons. Our forces also killed 28 confirmed FAPLA soldiers while the remaining fled in disarray.

4. At 0836 on 25 February, our anti-aircraft batteries shot down one MI-25 helicopter in (Pondo), Benguela Province. The aircraft and its occupants were completely burned.

5. The clashes will continue inasmuch as this is the path that the MPLA has chosen. The cowardice that forces the enemy to use chemical weapons will be neutralized by the strength of our people who are fighting for national reconciliation, liberty, and democracy.

[Issued] Office of the chief of General Staff, 26 February 1990

[Signed] Colonel Zacarias Mundanda, deputy military intelligence chief

**Dos Santos Appoints Secretary, Deputy Ministers**

*MB2702073390 Luanda Domestic Service in Portuguese 0600 GMT 27 Feb 90*

[Excerpt] Comrade Jose Eduardo dos Santos, chairman of the MPLA-[Popular Movement for Liberation of Angola] Labor Party and president of the People's Republic of Angola, yesterday appointed Comrade Manuel Francisco Tuta Batalha de Angola to the post of secretary of state for war veterans.

In other decrees, the Angolan head of state appointed Comrades Domingos Manuel Jinga to the post of deputy minister of foreign affairs; (Marcelino Soares Palanga), deputy minister of health; and Francisca de Fatima do Espirito Santo Carvalho de Almeida, deputy minister of education for general education.

The MPLA-Labor Party chairman and president of the Republic also appointed Comrade Colonel (Domingos Fumbo), MPLA-Labor Central Committee member, to the post of provincial commissioner of Cuando Cubango.

The Angolan head of state also decreed the creation of the management and reorganization commission of Agostinho Neto's University under the chairmanship of education minister, (?coordinated) by Comrade Jose Luis Guerra Marques, and made up of following members: comrades Jose Marcos Barrica, (Anabala Tavares), Graca Maria Vieira Lopes, and Jose Manuel Nunes Junior. [passage omitted]

**Lesotho****Justice Swears in Two Ministers, Deputies**

*MB2602202290 Maseru Domestic Service in English 1600 GMT 26 Feb 90*

[Text] Two ministers and assistant ministers were sworn in by Chief Justice Peter Cullinan this afternoon.

Dr. L.B.B.J. Machobane was sworn in in his former post as minister of education.

Chief Lechesa Mathealira was sworn as minister of tourism, sports, and culture; Mr. Philip Mabatoana as assistant minister of education; and Chief (Mokhosi Matiti) as assistant minister of interior, chieftainship affairs, and rural development.

## Namibia

### Nujoma Plans for Mar Independence Celebrations

#### Invites 'Old Friend' 'Arafat

MB2302234790

[Editorial Report] Windhoek THE NAMIBIAN in English on 21 February publishes on page 2 a 4x7, black-and-white, medium shot photograph of Namibian President-Elect Sam Nujoma sitting next to PLO Chairman Yasir 'Arafat. Both men are wearing ear-phones.

The caption under the photograph reads:

"Yasir 'Arafat, President of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) is, according to reports, on SWAPO's [South-West African People's Organization] guest list for Namibia's independence on March 21. He is seen here with an old friend, Mr. Sam Nujoma, Namibian President-elect, during an OAU summit in Addis Ababa."

#### Libya's Al-Qadhdhafi To Attend

MB2402152890 Windhoek THE NAMIBIAN  
in Afrikaans 19 Feb 90 p 10

[By Stanley Katrao]

[Excerpt] Libyan President Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi will be one of the heads of state attending the independence celebrations on 21 March in Windhoek.

Protocol Subcommittee Chairman Theo-Ben Gurirab says President al-Qadhdhafi is one of Africa's "most prominent" leaders who supported SWAPO [South-West African People's Organization] during its liberation struggle.

If he should accept, he will be one of the high ranking officials attending the celebrations. [passage omitted]

### Cabinet Drops Health, Finance Deputy Posts

MB2302201490 Windhoek Domestic Service  
in Afrikaans 1900 GMT 23 Feb 90

[Text] The posts of deputy minister of health and social services and of deputy finance minister in the government of an independent Namibia have been dropped.

The decision was made at a shadow cabinet session, in Windhoek yesterday.

State Security Shadow Minister (?Peter Shirumbu) will no longer have a deputy minister or permanent secretary in his department.

### Pienaar Declares 21, 22 Mar Public Holidays

MB2302201790 Windhoek Domestic Service  
in Afrikaans 1900 GMT 23 Feb 90

[Text] Administrator General Louis Pienaar has declared Wednesday, 21 March, and Thursday, 22 March, public holidays in Namibia, following a Constituent Assembly request.

Pienaar said the public holidays will allow the public nationwide to attend the independence celebrations.

He has also agreed to a request that Namibian schools close on Friday, 16 March, for the autumn recess.

## Swaziland

### Prime Minister Sends 'Special Message' to Mandela

MB2702084890 Mbabane THE SWAZI OBSERVER  
in English 27 Feb 90 p 1

[By John Dlamini]

[Excerpt] The Prime Minister, Mr Obed Dlamini, has sent a special message to freed African National Congress (ANC) leader, Mr Nelson Mandela.

Both the Prime Minister's Office and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs declined to give details of the message yesterday.

The message was conveyed to Johannesburg-based Mr Mandela on Sunday [25 February] by two emissaries, the Minister of Labour and Public Service, Senator Ben Nsibandze, and the Chief of Protocol, Mr John Dube.

The two had returned a few days earlier from delivering a message from His Majesty the King to South African President F.W. de Klerk which, among other things, is said to have congratulated him on the bold political reforms he recently put into action.

The reforms included the unbanning of the anti-apartheid organisations and freeing of 71-year-old Mandela from 27 years of incarceration for plotting against white rule and its racial policies. At the time of going to press, the duo were not back. [passage omitted]

## Zambia

### Kaunda Receives UK Antisapartheid Movement Official

MB2602190890 Lusaka Domestic Service in English  
1800 GMT 26 Feb 90

[Text] President Kaunda has urged antiapartheid movements to (?shoulder) in on their efforts to bring peace, democracy, and justice to South Africa.

Comrade Kaunda said in Lusaka today that the release of ANC [African National Congress] leader Nelson Mandela was the beginning of a difficult path which anti-apartheid movements and other peace-loving organizations should take up seriously. He was speaking at State House when the secretary of the London-based Anti-apartheid Movement, Mr. (Abdul Mighi), called on him.

Comrade Kaunda said the release of Comrade Mandela, who arrives in the country tomorrow for a visit, was a source of satisfaction to antiapartheid movements.

In reply, Mr. (Mighi) saluted the decision by Comrade Mandela [word indistinct] to visit Zambia, which had put in enormous effort to bring social and political change in South Africa.



## Ivory Coast

### Students Defy Government; Protests Continue 26 Feb

AB2602184890 London BBC World Service in English  
1615 GMT 26 Feb 90

[From the "Focus on Africa" Program]

[Text] It is now nearly a week since antigovernment protest broke out in Ivory Coast. The student-led demonstrations including a sit-in in the church this weekend, are being sparked of by unhappiness with President Houphouet-Boigny's one-party state and by recent economic austerity measures. The students are even demanding that Ivorian cabinet ministers take a pay cut.

On the line to Abidjan, Elizabeth Ohene asked Elizabeth Blunt what has been happening today.

[Begin recording] [Blunt] Well, today was a day when classes were supposed to resume at the university where they had been suspended last week during the protests. And last night, the head of the official students organization which is linked to the ruling party went on radio and television and appealed to all the students to go back to class. But in fact that has not happened, they have not gone back to class and some of the school children were out with them as well. It is a very strange situation as sporadic demonstrations spring up around the city and then die down as if they have never been.

[Ohene] About how large were these various groups?

[Blunt] Well, the one in the middle of town was... [changes thought] it was, it did not start very big, about 50 or 60 students and some other youngsters joined them and they had placards they made themselves out of bits of cardboard box. They were tramping around the streets, chanting and singing—they were singing the national anthem which is something they started doing, presumably because they think the police cannot attack them for doing that. And for really quite a long time, twenty minutes or half an hour, they were marching around the middle of Plateau, which is the central district, and it was only at the end of that that suddenly the riot police appeared, there was the most enormous explosion of a stun grenade, and then they were chasing them in all directions. And, I think they may have intervened then because the president was coming to Plateau to the presidential office in order to hold an important meeting. And once they got the youngsters on the run, they then swept clear with tear gas the route which the president was going to take to the meeting.

[Ohene] Now, when these sporadic demonstrations were erupting in the middle of town, what were the citizens of Abidjan doing? Did people join in?

[Blunt] Oh well, they all came out to watch. I mean it is not at all like Lagos or Dakar or Harare where the moment there is a demonstration, everybody rushes off home and shuts themselves in, and all the buses go off the streets and all the taxis disappear and everybody scoops up their things and disappears. Um, people stood

and watched and then afterwards they carried on just as before. The shoeshine boys were still shining shoes and the banana women were frying bananas and everything seemed normal. [end recording]

### Demonstrations, Demands Viewed

AB2602203290 Dakar PANA in French 1834 GMT  
26 Feb 90

[Text] Abidjan (AIP/PANA)—Classes did not resume this morning at the university and in other institutions of higher learning in Abidjan, contrary to the announcement made yesterday by the national executive bureau of the Movement of Students and Pupils of the Ivory Coast (MEECI), a specialized section of the Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast-African Democratic Rally [PDCI-RDA] (ruling sole party).

The demonstrating students prevented the market in Yopougon (a ward southwest of the Ivorian economic capital) from opening.

Another group of students, for several minutes, interrupted traffic around the presidential palace. These striking students reject the statement by the executive bureau of the students movement and want to be received by the head of state himself, some of the placards they carried read.

Indeed, the MEECI executive bureau, which announced yesterday that classes would resume today, also expressed the movement's indignation following damage caused by the actions of "some irresponsible and manipulated" elements.

The movement apologized to the Ivorian head of state and to the authorities for all that disturbed public order, and the commitment and the mobilization of the student youths around President Felix Houphouet-Boigny.

It also pointed out various measures that had been taken by the authorities in charge of education to appease the students. These measures deal with the purchase of meals tickets, hostel rents, transportation for the students, and so on.

One hundred and thirty-seven youths, who had been detained for some time at the police station following the weekend incidents (acts of vandalism and looting in Abidjan), were released yesterday by the minister of internal security, General Issouf Kone, who was accompanied by his colleague Mr. Leon Konan Koffi, the interior minister, on the orders of the president of the Republic.

This release put to rest rumors that two students had been killed because all those detained were able to return to their various campuses.

From 17 through 20 February, it is recalled, electricity cuts had paralyzed all activities in Ivory Coast. These frequent cuts, due to a breakdown on the national grid



and which occurred at a station at Soubre (in the center-western part of the country), sparked off a wave of protests, during the night of 19 February, at the university campus at Yopougon (the biggest ward in Abidjan with 600,000 inhabitants).

Deprived of electricity while some of them were preparing for their exams, the students, who succeeded in obtaining their postponement, expressed their unhappiness by destroying government vehicles and buildings as well as private cars and taxicabs.

The following day, the demonstration spread to the center of Cocody ward where the university, the institutions of higher learning, and four city university campuses are sited, and despite the decision of the education minister to postpone the tests, tension increased.

Thus, from simple and traditional demands for improved working conditions, the students are now destroying anything that symbolizes the state. They are demanding the dismissal of the vice chancellor and the director of the National Center for University Projects as well as the resignation of the minister of national education charged with higher and secondary education. They later demanded the resignation of the president of the Republic.

### Student Group Issues Statement

AB2602143590 Abidjan FRATERNITE MATIN in French  
26 Feb 90 p 13

[Statement issued on 26 February in Abidjan by the National Bureau of the Movement of Students and Pupils of the Ivory Coast (MEECI) following the release of 137 detained students]

[Text] Following the unfortunate events, which have shaken our pleasant country's legendary tranquillity and peace, the MEECI leadership met on 25 February 1990 at its headquarters under the chairmanship of Comrade Aboubacar Keita, the head of the National Bureau. The following representatives of the various schools and colleges attended this major meeting:

Members of the MEECI National Bureau; Bureau chairmen and members of the National University and college department, and high and junior high school sections; Bureau members of the 18 University Residence Councils; Bureau members of university clubs and associations; University and college department auditorium delegates, or 515 democratically elected students and pupils.

As student and pupil leaders, we have to ensure calm and peace, which have prevailed continuously in schools and on campuses since 1983. This objective can only be achieved through sincere dialogue and exemplary and greater cooperation among Ivorian students and pupils. We must be aware of the solidarity and unity recommended by our leadership for our country's longstanding progress. They have been working relentlessly for it.

Indeed, our efforts to establish calm and peace among us is only equaled by our determination for cooperation and our refusal to engage in risky uprisings which do not contribute to our country's development. We are also aware that it is easy to state grievances, but they can only be met through sincere and constructive dialogue—first, among ourselves and then in a serene atmosphere with our political and administrative authorities. But, we have noticed that this has not been the case. Thus, today more than ever, people should understand why we decided at the end of this meeting to convey our apologies to the chairman of the party, the president of the Republic and head of state, his excellency Felix Houphouet-Boigny. We convey these apologies for everything that has disturbed public order and we reaffirm our commitment to him and to the Democratic Party of the Ivory Coast-African Democratic Rally [PDCI-RDA] so that he can further devote himself to the nation-building task, and help achieve the welfare of Ivorians and improve the living and working conditions of Ivorian students and pupils in the highest interest of the nation, whose development should be achieved calmly and responsibly.

We have noticed with bitterness that rather than focusing on the improvement of Ivorian students and pupils' living and working conditions, our sound grievances have deviated from their initial objectives and taken an inappropriate political turn, at a time when the nation needs the unity and solidarity of all its sons. These two factors are needed for our country's economic liberation following the political struggle of our party's pioneers, who have regained our dignity and freedom, confiscated during the colonization. It is normal to say, without any risk of being mistaken and after having been on the field, that these uprisings have been masterminded by forces outside student circles. These forces are driven by forces that are not relevant to student problems.

Following cuts in electricity and water supplies, preventing us from sufficiently preparing for our mid-term and normal examinations, and after discussions with the minister of national education and the rector, the various dates for the mid-term examinations were postponed. The new dates will be determined independently by the university authorities. Today's meeting has given the various leaders of the students and pupils the opportunity to be correctly briefed by the minister on the various peace measures taken concerning:

- the prices of restaurant tickets;
- room rents;
- transportation;
- administrative measures concerning the various examinations in the various faculties, particularly for the faculty of medicine;
- security measures at the university residences;
- the closure of the Yopougon University residence and the construction of speed bumps on the road across

this residence and the services of the National University Welfare Services Center [CNOU] in all the residences.

After the consensus reached between both sides following an open and democratic discussion with the representatives of the government, today's meeting is an occasion for us to ask the students and pupils of the Ivory Coast to return to classes today, 26 February 1990. This appeal must be heeded by all as has always been the case in Ivory Coast.

We apologize to the president of the Republic, the minister of education, and the people who might have been greatly disturbed by irresponsible behavior. This will not occur again, and measures have already been taken to adopt a concerted strategy to ensure broad and smooth contacts for the elaboration of a language of goodwill.

Some acts of vandalism were committed by some ill-intentioned individuals who are not students. We are asking the head of state to forgive us our mistakes and misbehavior and to take strict measures to punish those involved.

We thank the head of state for releasing some of our comrades who behaved irresponsibly and were arrested.

The youth of Ivory Coast will always be grateful to the PDCI-RDA. We are informing our fellow students who have gone home for security reasons that contrary to rumors which have been circulating, classes will resume today, Monday, 26 February. February scholarship allowances and the other aid packages will be paid on Tuesday, 27 February by the CNOU, as usual.

All the demands presented by the entire student leadership were duly recorded by the minister of education representing the government, which has also taken note of it. We will meet with the government shortly.

Knowing fully well how much each and every one of us is devoted to the cause of his country, we are appealing once again to your sense of vigilance and patriotism to defend the interests of the nation which has done everything for us.

—Long live His Excellency President Felix Houphouet-Boigny

—Long live the PDCI-RDA

—Long live the youth of Ivory Coast, so that the Ivory Coast can remain strong, brotherly, and prosperous.

Issued in Abidjan on 25 February

The MEECI National Bureau

### Opposition FPI Head Says 'Ready To Govern'

AB2702104090 London BBC World Service in English  
0730 GMT 27 Feb 90

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[Text] Today in Ivory Coast's capital, Abidjan, the crucial meeting of the National Council, which is aimed

at resolving the wave of antigovernment protests by students, will hopefully take place. It was bode for yesterday, you see, but it was postponed to today without any explanation. Protests continued yesterday, after the students ignored an appeal by one of their leaders to go back to classes. Yet again, the security forces intervened with force and tear gas to disperse them. The students are calling for change in the political system which has been dominated for so long by 84-year-old President Felix Houphouet-Boigny. They have found support from an opposition party called the Ivorian Popular Front, the FPI. For years, the FPI has been preaching about the issues that have caused the latest protests. Its leader is Laurent Gbagbo, a name that has become almost synonymous with the opposition in Ivory Coast, recently. Mr Gbagbo speaks in French and on the line to Abidjan Marco Werman asked him just what sparked off the student protests.

[Begin recording] [Gbagbo in French fading into English translation] I think what is happening now is the result of the Ivorians being generally fed up. Everybody is tense all across the country. It is just that it is certain social professional categories who are more prompt to react than others. It was not, contrary to popular belief, the students who began to protest. It was the electrical and energy workers, who after getting pay cuts turned the power off briefly in the Ivory Coast. This angered the students since they could not study and they went on strike. This was the straw that broke the camel's back.

[Werman] The way you put everything Mr. Gbagbo, it sounds as if the students are simply worried about their future in the university and what their future might be after the university. However, the other day when they went out into the streets, they were crying A bas Houphouet [Down with Houphouet]. Don't you see any sort of correlation between their protests and maybe a general malaise with the government that has been there for the past 25 years?

[Gbagbo] Of course, today, Ivory Coast needs new men with new politics. The guy, who is in power now, has been there since 1957 and his politics have failed. There is a debt of \$15.5 billion. Ivorians are more in debt than the Brazilians. For the farmers, coffee and cocoa are not being bought any more so the Ivorians now recognize that Houphouet and his team have failed and the people want the system to change. You can change that system like they did in Poland or like they did in Romania. We at the FPI want it to happen like Poland, but I believe, Houphouet wants to prepare Romania for us. I hope we can have discussions that will lead to a peaceful shift from dictatorial politics to a multiparty system. I asked the president two weeks ago for a meeting, he has not answered my request yet.

[Werman] Mr. Gbagbo, after all these years of your involvement in the opposition in Ivory Coast, you must find a certain irony in the fact that the movement is now sort of fomenting with you on the periphery.

[Gbagbo] We are not in the periphery. The role of a political party is to always be ready to take over the reins

of power. We must look forward and be ready to govern in order to avoid internal collapse. We are ready. [end recording]

#### **Houphouet-Boigny Meets Employers, Union Officials**

*AB2602171790 Abidjan Domestic Service in French  
1245 GMT 26 Feb 90*

[Text] At last, at 1030 at the Presidential Palace, President Felix Houphouet-Boigny, chairman of the party, received the representatives of the Union of Ivorian Employers, Chambers of Agriculture, Commerce, and Industry, and General Union of Ivory Coast Workers. This important meeting, which was previously slated for yesterday, was postponed to today as a result of President Houphouet-Boigny's particularly busy schedule. Therefore, the National Council's meeting slated for today will be held tomorrow at 1000, still at the Presidential Palace.

#### **Austerity Program Decision Postponed**

*AB2602144390 Paris AFP in English 1436 GMT  
26 Feb 90*

[Text] Abidjan, Feb 26 (AFP)—Ivory Coast President Felix Houphouet-Boigny told business leaders and trade union leaders Monday [26 February] that the government was planning drastic economic measures, but that a final decision had been postponed until Thursday, informed sources said here.

The government is planning to reduce civil servants' salaries by between 15 and 40 percent, the sources said, as well as cutting electricity prices by 20 percent for private individuals and by 10 per cent for businesses.

Water costs would be cut by 10 per cent and customs taxes by an amount yet to be decided, the sources added.

President Houphouet-Boigny confirmed that the government was planning drastic measures for the economy in a meeting Monday with businessmen and trade union leaders but said a final decision had been postponed until Thursday.

The business leaders and unions urged the president Monday to rethink plans to increase from one per cent to 11 per cent a national development levy on all salaries.

The government is to examine their requests and submit a new plan Thursday to the National Council, the ruling Ivory Coast Democratic Party's highest body.

The president had already postponed this meeting from Monday to Tuesday.

Police used tear gas Monday to disperse groups of university students defying orders to end a week-old boycott of classes to back demands for cheaper accommodation and meals and to protest at frequent power cuts which have disrupted examinations.

The ruling Ivory Coast Democratic Party (PDCI) has warned that "sacrifices" will be required from the people to bring the country out of an economic crisis caused by the collapse of world prices of cocoa and coffee, the country's leading exports.

The Finance Ministry has said that Ivory Coast's western creditors are asking the government to make budget savings of 130 billion CFA [African Financial Community] francs (456 million dollars) and to raise taxes.

**END OF**

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**28 Feb 90**

